WARNING:

This story contains shounen-ai elements and the dark and dramatic theme may not be appropriate for younger readers.

Consider yourself warned!

-Esthetique Staff

Act 2 Chapter 2 Credits

scanner: Leguman

Translator: Tomo

Editor: hkgaines

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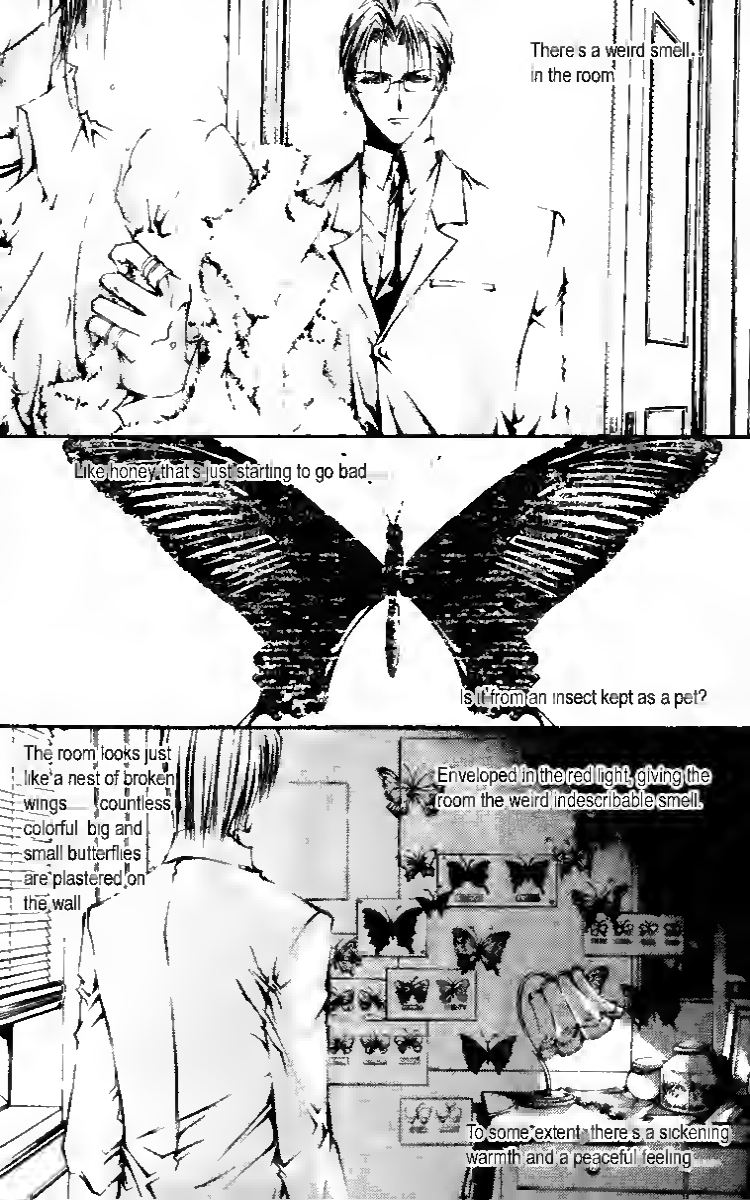
HEAVEN

My home is a little white house, hidden in between the
vane that a soft ray of sunlight peeks through.
It's like a waking dream filled with the scent of green grass.
In the ray of sunlight, on the bumpy road of the sunset
playing hide and seek,
the flickering light in the white room
radiates an indescribable happiness
I sweetly enter the dream
sweetly enter the dream—
AUTO REVERSE

The worst apartment in the slums
Just who is this kid...?
THIS IS MY HOME
COME IN.


There s a weird smell in the room
Like honey that s just starting to go bad
Is it from an insect kept as a pet?
The room looks just like a nest of broken wings countless colorful big and small butterflies are plastered on the wall
Enveloped in the red light, giving the room the weird indescribable smell.
To some extent there s a sickening warmth and a peaceful feeling

THESE ARE
SPECIMENS?
Hmhh
MOMMY
"MOMMY'S ARM CAME OFF
LOOK
It's the kid from just now?

双胞胎?
HOW ANNOYING!
DIDN'T I JUST FIX THAT FOR YOU?
TWINS?
I STUCK THOSE UP JUST YESTERDAY. I WANTED TO SURPRISE YOU.
BUT...
IT'S REALLY IRRITATING!
AND THEN THERE'S YOUR PATHETIC BUGS! TAKE ALL OF THEM OFF THE WALL!
IT'S DISGUSTING!
THAT'S ENOUGH! GO PUT ON SOME CLOTHES! DON'T WALK AROUND IN A TOWEL!
I DON'T EVER WANT TO CLEAN UP THESE ANNOYING BROKEN WINGS AGAIN!
GO BACK TO YOUR ROOM AND THROW ALL THESE RABBITS IN A PILE. I'LL FIND TIME TO FIX THEM! DON'T COME BOTHER ME BEFORE THE SUN IS UP!

LOCK
YOUR BROTHER?
YEAH, HE'S MY TWIN.
IT TURNED HIM INSANE
FOUR YEARS AGO, HE WAS STABBED IN THE HEAD WITH A NAIL IN THE WATER. THE NAIL WAS TAKEN OUT,
BUT THE DIRTY WATER AND THE METAL STAYED IN THE BRAIN.
HEY,
YOU HIT ME REALLY HARD JUST NOW.....

SUCH PRETTY AND NICE FINGERS
CAN ONLY DO SUCH CRUEL THINGS?
BAM
OUTSIDE JUST NOW, YOU SAID YOU KNEW THIS WOMAN?
I DON'T KNOW HER.

YOU PROBABLY WOULDN'T LET ME TRICK YOU ON PURPOSE, RIGHT?
THIS LITTLE CHILD'S TRICKS IT DOESN'T SEEM POSSIBLE THAT THEY WOULD WORK
IT WAS THE SAME THE FIRST TIME THAT WE MET YOU HAVE A PAIR OF SHARP EYES
I JUST WANTED YOU TO COME TO MY HOME
ARE YOU KIDDING ME?
SUCH A WASTE OF TIME!
MOVE ASIDE I'M GOING BACK
WAIT!
YOU LET ME TRICK YOU ON PURPOSE, RIGHT?

BUT SERIOUSLY SPEAKING,
YOU.
DON'T SEEM LIKE THE COLD, EMOTIONLESS TYPE...
Good morning
little children,
it's time to wake up!

La la la~
wake up!
wake up!
Hi
LAST NIGHT "MOMMY'S" LEG ALSO FELL OFF. CAN YOU HELP ME SEW IT BACK ON?
SNACK
OKAY, OKAY! I'LL SEW IT BACK ON!
So loud! It's too early

HEH.
RIIING
RIIING
HI, HANDSOME.
SO YOUR NAME IS JUN!

WHEN DID YOU STEAL MY POLICE BADGE?
YOU'RE SO BAD~~
SUCH A BAD MOUTH~
HO HO
I WAS JUST LETTING YOU KNOW THAT YOU DROPPED SOMETHING AT MY PLACE OUT OF THE GOODNESS OF MY HEART
NOT RIGHT NOW
HOW'S TOMORROW NIGHT?
OK.
YOU JUST WANT ME TO GO TO YOUR PLACE AGAIN, DON'T YOU?
HOW SMART ♡
YOU GUESSED RIGHT~

MY DEAR,
WHO CALLED JUST NOW?
NO ONE IT WAS A WRONG NUMBER.
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
DINNER'S ALMOST READY, DEAR.
WHAT KIND OF CAKE DO YOU WANT? APPLE? PUMPKIN?
ANNA, DIDN'T I TELL YOU NOT TO DO THESE CHORES. LET ME HANDLE THEM.
SIGH. LET'S HAVE A FEEL. THE BABY'S MOVING
HO HO
HE'S SAYING HE WANTS TO COME OUT FASTER.....

BEEP
The bad habit of human kind is that they always think that what others have is better than theirs.
House, car, job.....
TOMOR-ROW NIGHT
and other people's happiness
ISN'T THAT HAKUEI? LONG TIME NO SEE!
WHY HAVEN'T I SEEN YOU AROUND LATELY?
ARE YOU BLACKMAIL-ING THAT POOR INSECT AGAIN?
COME HANG OUT IF YOU HAVE TIME!
CHINA

YOU PROBABLY GOT SOME, RIGHT? A FEW DAYS AGO, JOEY SAID YOU BORROWED MONEY AND DISAPPEARED AGAIN
THAT KID IS A SINGLE-CELLED ORGANISM IF YOU KEEP TRICKING HIM LIKE THIS HE'LL REALLY KILL YOU!
IS HE CRAZY? WHY CAN'T I REMEMBER THIS THING?
HA HA HA HAKUEI'S LYING FACE IS STILL BEAUTIFUL! I WAS THERE WHEN YOU BORROWED MONEY LAST TIME!
THANKS.
BOSS HOW'S BUSINESS LATELY?
THOSE BASTARDS THAT WERE BRIBED WILL CLOSE YOUR STORE AND ARREST YOU.
SAYING YOU PARTICIPATED IN ILLEGAL BUSINESS I HEARD THAT'S WHAT THEY USUALLY DO TO FIND SCAPEGOATS FOR CHARLES
STOP LOOKING AROUND HERE AND THINKING UP SLEAZY PLANS!
BORING
EXACTLY! I'VE ALSO HEARD THAT THEY PLAN TO EXPAND THEIR "BUSINESS" HERE...
SOME OF THOSE CUSTOMERS COULD BE CHARLES' LACKEYS
BE CAREFUL THAT THEY DON'T GET THE COPS' ATTENTION. YOUR STORE WILL BE RUINED

LET'S STOP TALKING ABOUT COPS
I STILL HAVE SOME DATES.
BYE BYE
HA HA, WHAT KIND OF UNLUCKY BASTARD IS IT THIS TIME?
EH?
IT'S A RICH BASTARD!
FLAP

STOP THESE BORING LOVER GAMES WITH ME,
AND GIVE ME BACK MY POLICE BADGE
THIS IS THE FEE FOR YESTERDAY
HMPH.
YOU SURE ARE THE DRIVER OF A FERRARI! YOU'RE SO GENEROUS WITH MONEY!

CLICK
WHAT DO YOU TAKE ME FOR?
YOU SCOUN-DREL!

GIVE IT BACK
GIVE WHAT BACK?
MY PHONE NUMBER.
I THREW IT OUT.
BAM
THIS IS WHY I HATE YOU FAKE BASTARDS IN UNIFORM!
YOUR FACE IS SO HIGH AND MIGHTY, BUT YOU DO SO LOW AND DESPICABLE THINGS!
AND AFTERWARDS, YOU WIPE YOUR MOUTHS CLEAN SAYING YOU DIDN'T HAVE ANYTHING TO DO WITH IT!

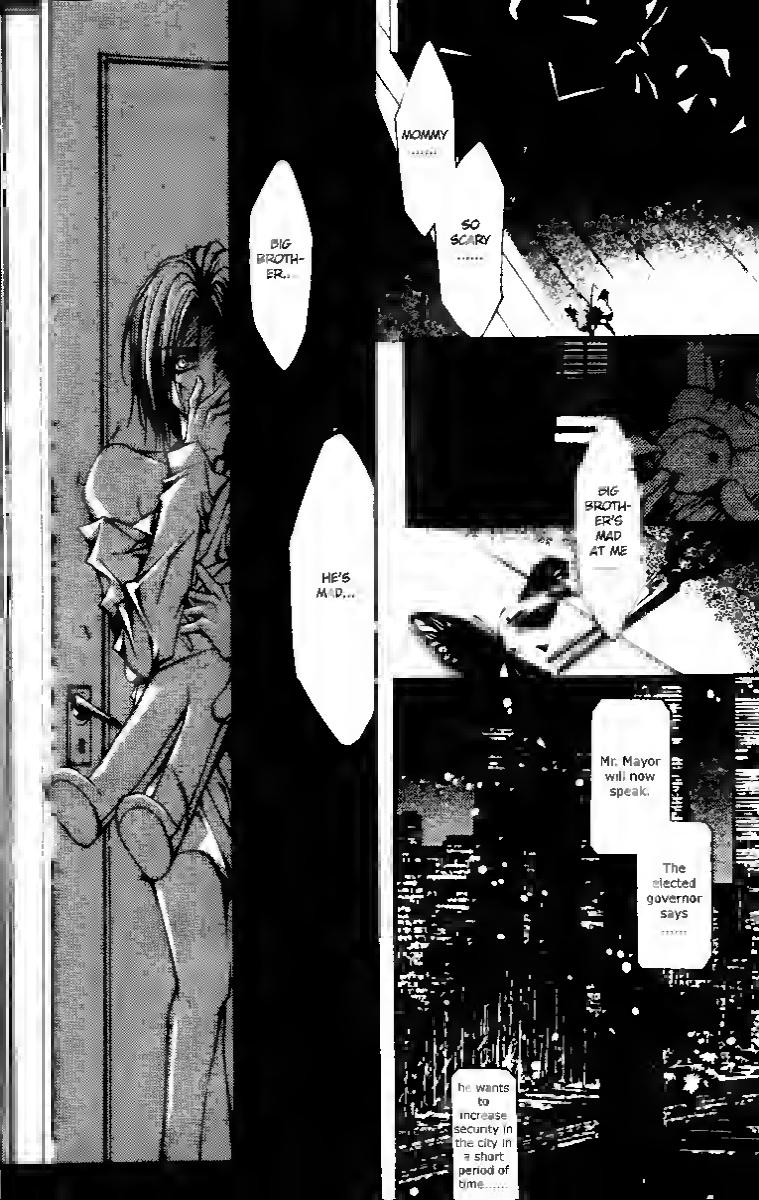
LOOKING AT YOU ALL DRESSED UP IN THIS SUIT, I CAN GUESS THAT YOU'VE GOT A SUCCESSFUL JOB, RIGHT?
FOR EXAMPLE,
WHAT WOULD HAPPEN IF YOUR WIFE AND CO-WORKERS FIND OUT ABOUT WHAT HAPPENED YESTERDAY?
GO AHEAD AND SAY IT.
I DON'T CARE
PEOPLE THAT NEED TO USE ME AND MY UNDERLINGS, EVEN IF THEY BELIEVE YOU IN THEIR HEARTS, THEY'LL STILL PUT ON A FAKE EXPRESSION OF RAGE, SAYING YOU'RE SLANDERING A NOBLE PERSON.
THOSE AGAINST ME, THEY'VE ALREADY COME UP WITH WORSE LIES TO TRY TO RUIN ME.

Ah!!
YOU'RE SO NAIVE IT'S CUTE
LISTEN CAREFULLY,
YOU LITTLE DEVIL.
WE ONLY ACT HIGH AND MIGHTY TO THE PUBLIC BUT USUALLY,
WE DON'T EVEN NEED TO DO SUCH A THING LIKE "WIPE OUR MOUTHS CLEAN."
DO YOU THINK THAT YOU CAN RUIN ME WITH JUST YOUR "CHEAP TRUTH?"
EVERYONE HAS MORE THAN ONE SIDE, WHY IS IT THAT YOU LOW ENDS OF SOCIETY STILL HAVE SUCH NAIVE IMAGINATIONS?
WHAT WE SEEM LIKE IS COMPLETELY YOUR ONE-SIDED IMAGINATION
EVERYONE IS JUST SEWER RATS RUNNING AROUND ALL DAY.

HAVE YOU EVER THOUGHT...
WITH A LITTLE HANDI-WORK, I COULD PILE ON A LOT OF CHARGES AND LET YOU ROT IN JAIL FOR THE REST OF YOUR LIFE? I HAVE NO NEED TO KEEP YOU QUIET
DO YOU SERI-OUSLY THINK...
THE GOVERNMENT AND LAWS ARE JUST?
BAM
YEAH!!
YOU SAID IT!
THIS IS THE RETURN FOR OUR "MEETING GIFT," MR. POLICEMAN!
BAM

YOU'VE REALLY OPENED MY EYES WITH YOUR COLORFUL SPEECH!
TO YOU, WE "GARBAGE" ARE ONLY USEFUL
FOR YOU "HIGH CLASS" RATS TO SELL, RIGHT?!
I REALLY WANT TO BREAK YOUR ARROGANT MOUTH
AND THROW IT OUT TO FEED THE CATS!
Ha.
Ha, ha
DID I HIT A SORE SPOT? YOU CAN'T EVEN RETALIATE
YOUR FACE RIGHT NOW LOOKS LIKE A CAT THAT JUST HAD IT'S TAIL STEPPED ON BUT CAN'T LASH OUT SCREAMING AND SNARLING

Bast-
ard
Shut up
HA
HA
HA
HA
LEAVE!!
CRASH
IF YOU
KEEP
PEEKING,
I'LL
KILL
YOU!


MOMMY .....
SO SCARY .....
BIG BROTH-ER...
HE'S MAD...
BIG BROTH-ER'S MAD AT ME
Mr. Mayor will now speak.
The elected governor says .....
he wants to increase security in the city in a short period of time.....

THE WAY YOU SPEAK IS TOO DIRECT.
IT HURTS PEOPLE
At the same time, Mr Governor appeals to the whole city
In the middle of the speech
DO YOU WANT ME TO SAY THOSE SUGARY, FAKE WORDS?
NO...
NOW IS FINE
RATS. ... ARE A REALLY SAD COMPARISON NO MATTER WHAT YOU SAY EVEN IF I'M FILTHY,
I'M STILL A HUMAN BEING.
AT LEAST USE AN ANIMAL WITH SOME HUMAN CHARACTERISTICS... EVEN THOUGH YOU COMPARED YOURSELF TO A RAT, TOO.

BUT YOU CAN'T DISCOVER THAT, IN THE SAME SEWER, YOU HAVE WHITE COMPANIONS.
EVERYONE WANTS TO DRESS THEMSELVES UP.
AND BECAUSE YOU'RE A BLACK RAT, YOU NOTICE OTHER PEOPLE BECAUSE YOU ARE TOO ARROGANT.
YOU CAN'T REALIZE THAT THERE'S DIFFERENT SPECIES ALL AROUND YOU.
HEY.
WHY'D YOU STAY?
YOUR JOKE IS REALLY CRUEL.
IT'S PROBABLY BECAUSE OF YOUR PRICKLY PORCUPINE-LIKE, BUT PROUD, PERSONALITY.

IN REALITY, YOU DISCRIMINATE AGAINST ME...
JUST SAY IT, I DON'T MIND.....
LEAVE THE MONEY BEHIND. I FEEL CALMER WHEN I HAVE MONEY TO SPEND

After Jun got his police badge back, he called me and told me he wanted to take care of me

"Can you afford it?" And after he heard this joke, he solemnly said an amount that I couldn't reject

But the catch is that I can't interfere with his life and, outside of my room, we're strangers

Lately in my room
As if in a fairytale
in the white room bound by ivy,
the melody of this song keeps replaying
my knight weaves me a butterfly-colored dream
it must have started before I knew it,
I've already been trapped into this dream
Even I couldn't detect it

hidden in between the vane of a soft ray of light
that peeks through in the small white house
It's like the waking dream filled with
the scent of green grass
SNIP
In the ray of sunlight on the
bumpy road of the sunset
we're playing hide-and-seek...
HI—
HAVE
YOU
SEEN
HAKUEI?

WHAT A MESSY ROOM.
MR. JUN?
GOOD EVENING
WHEN YOUR BROTHER COMES HOME, HE'LL BE MAD AGAIN
EH?
BIG BROTHER IS RIGHT HERE
He probably went out to play.
I thought that he'd hold back a bit lately.
WHATEVER. I CAN'T GET ANYTHING OUT OF HIM.....
BECAUSE SHE WAS TOO BAD.....
SEE.....
JUN, LOOK.
MOMMY IS INJURED AGAIN.
SO I PUNISHED HER.

IN HER TUMMY
BIG BROTHER'S ALSO IN HER TUMMY
AND HE'S LEFT HIS CAR HERE AGAIN, AND LEFT WITHOUT A TRACE.
WHAT A BOTHER
WHAT'S JUN DOING?
HIS PHONE'S BEEN OFF ALL MORNING
BAM
I'M SO FREAKIN' BORED!!

I went through the whole car out of boredom
WHAT'S INSIDE THIS BRIEFCASE? SHOULD I TAKE A LOOK?
EVEN THOUGH IT'S NOT LOCKED DOES IT MEAN I CAN OPEN IT?
WELL, SINCE JUN'S NOT HERE
THE BRIEFCASE LOOKS EXPENSIVE, IS IT HIDING SOMETHING VALUABLE?
WOULD IT MATTER IF I HAD A LITTLE PEEK?
Click
Creak

……
Ha
……

……
Ha
……

CAN ALMOST OVER-LOOK THE ENTIRE CITY OF NEW YORK.
THIS PLACE .....
A CITY CAN INCLUDE SO MANY CONTROVERSIAL SIDES AT THE SAME TIME. IT'S HARD TO BELIEVE .....
LUSTY, CONTENTIOUS, ROWDY, APATHETIC, SUMPTUOUS AND LEADING A VAIN LIFE.....

IT'S BEAUTIFUL, ISN'T IT?
IT'S THIS BEWITCHING BEAUTY, THAT CAN TRAP EVERYONE IN IT'S GRASP.....
WE FREQUENTLY FORGET THE CRUEL NATURE OF IT.
HO HO, MR. JUN'S WORDS REALLY TOUCH THE HEART.....
WHAT CAN WE DO?
EVERYONE WANTS TO LIVE BETTER THAN OTHERS.
OUR BOSS GAVE YOU A PRESENT.
JUST A LITTLE GIFT, NOT MUCH
BOSS IS VERY APPRECIATIVE FOR YOUR HELP THIS WHOLE TIME

EVEN THOUGH WE ALWAYS IMPOSE ON YOU,
BOSS HAS ANOTHER FAVOR TO ASK OF YOU.
THIS IS ——
MR CHARLES IS LOOKING FOR THE LOVER HE LOST 12 YEARS AGO
YOU CAN ALSO FIND HER IN THE GOVERNMENT'S "WITNESS PROTECTION PROGRAM" FILES.....
ALONG WITH HER SONS' WHERE-ABOUTS .....

THE SECOND ROUND - END

NOTE:
THIS SERIES IS
READ FROM LEFT
TO RIGHT

Need...more...staff...

ESTHETIQUE NEEDS YOU TO HELP SAVE THIS CUTE LITTLE FELLA! DO YOU THINK YOU HAVE WHAT IT TAKES? WE NEED JAPANESE/KOREAN TRANSLATORS, EDITORS, AND EXPERIENCED QC-ERS, STAT!

JOIN US AT
HTTP://WWW.ESTHETIQUE-REALM.NET

IMAGE FROM ME AND MY AINIA BY RYAN